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*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

April 21, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 2123

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 09/459,995; Filed: December 14, 1999

Synchronization of Hardware Simulation Processes

Inventors: Chalfin et al.

Our Ref: 15-4-833.00 (1452.2900000)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136;

RECEIVED

APR 2 4 2003

2. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);

Technology Center 2100

- 3. Reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
- 4. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038; and
- 5. Two (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time re necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents April 21, 2003 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Edward W. Yee

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 47,294

MVM/EWY/acr Enclosures

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